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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Wei et al.

Application Serial No.: 09/726,348

Filed: December 1, 2000

Title: Transforming Growth Factor Alpha HIII

Group Art Unit: 1647

Examiner: Spector, Lorraine

Atty. Docket No. PF220P1

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.56**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to inform the Patent and Trademark Office of all references coming to the attention of each individual associated with the filing or prosecution of the subject application, which are or may be material to the patentability of an claim of the subject application, Attorneys for Applicants hereby direct the Examiner's attention to the references AL-AW listed on the attached revised form PTO/SB/08.

Copies of references AM, AN, AP, AQ, AW, and AX were submitted by Applicants or cited by the Examiner in connection with United States Patent Application No. 08/778,545, filed January 3, 1997, to which the instant application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), the Examiner is directed to the file of United States Patent Application Serial No. 08/778,545 for copies of references AM, AN, AP, AQ, AW, and AX. Copies of references AL, AO, and AR-AV are enclosed.

Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner that SEQ ID NO:1 and the corresponding cDNA clone of this application are related to SEQ ID NOS:34830, 177536, and 179175 in copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/912,293. A legible copy of that portion of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/912,293 which caused it to be listed on the attached revised form PTO/SB/08 is submitted herewith as reference AH.

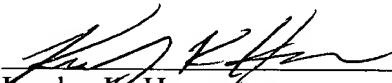
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Identification of the listed references is not to be construed an admission of any individual associated with the filing or prosecution of the subject application that such information are available as "prior art" against the subject application. Furthermore, Applicants do not waive any rights to appropriate action to establish patentability over any of the listed documents should they be applied as information against the claims of the subject application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the listed references and that the information be made of record in the file history of the application.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1), since this information disclosure statement is being filed concurrently with the instant application, no fee is believed due in connection herewith. However, should the Patent Office determine otherwise, please charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 08-3425.

Date: March 6, 2002

  
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Enclosures